

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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| Applicant's or agent's file reference PA-02052/PCT | FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) | |
| International application No. PCT/JP2002/010221 | International filing date (day/month/year) 30 September 2002 (30.09.2002) | Priority date (day/month/year) 19 June 2002 (19.06.2002) |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B65D 85/48, 61/00 | | |
| Applicant NIPPON SHEET GLASS CO., LTD. | | |

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 2 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the report
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

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| Date of submission of the demand 29 October 2003 (29.10.2003) | Date of completion of this report 21 November 2003 (21.11.2003) |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No. | Telephone No. |

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

 the international application as originally filed the description:pages 1-11, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

 the claims:pages 2, as originally filedpages 1, 4, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19)

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

 the drawings:pages 1-5, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

 the sequence listing part of the description:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

 the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)). the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

 contained in the international application in written form. filed together with the international application in computer readable form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form. The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished. The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of: the description, pages _____ the claims, Nos. 3 the drawings, sheets/fig _____5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International Application No.

[REDACTED]/JP02/10221

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|---------|-----|
| Novelty (N) | Claims | 1, 2, 4 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims | 1, 2, 4 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1, 2, 4 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |

2. Citations and explanations

Document 1: JP, 7-267290, A (Nippon Sheet Glass Co., Ltd.), 17 October, 1995 (17.10.95) (Family: none)

Document 2: US, 2839198, A (Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co.), 17 June, 1958 (17.06.58) (Family: none)

Document 3: US, 5379904, A (PPG Industries Inc.), 10 January, 1995 (10.01.95) (Family: none)

Claims 1, 2 and 4

None of documents 1-3 cited in the ISR describes that (1) pressing members have groove-shaped pressing plates disposed in the vertical direction with their open grooves kept facing front struts, and (2) locking members are slidably accommodated in the grooves of the pressing plates. This constitution is not considered to be obvious to a person skilled in the art either.

REPLACED BY
APR 19

CLAIMS

1. A packing device for plate-like articles, comprising:
a base frame (20);

5 a pair of rear frames (31, 31) upwardly disposed at rear
both sides of the base frames (20) so that the plate-like articles
(G) to be packed is leaned against the rear frame in a rearwardly
leaned posture;

a pair of front pillars (41, 41) upwardly disposed at front
10 both sides of the base frame (20); and

a pressing device (50) for pressing and holding the
plate-like articles (G) disposed on the base frame (20) toward
the rear frames (31, 31),

15 wherein the pressing device (50) has a pair of pressing
members (60, 60) to be arranged in a rearwardly leaned manner along
front both sides of the plate-like articles (G), locking members
(70, 80) each removably disposed between the corresponding
pressing member (60, 60) and front pillar (41, 41), and guide
members (71, 81) each for guiding the locking member (70, 80) in
20 an up-and-down direction along the front pillar (41),

wherein in a state in which the plate-like articles (G) are
disposed on the base frame (20) in a rearwardly leaned manner,
the locking members (70) (80) each disposed between the
corresponding front pillar (41) and pressing member (60) are
25 pressed downwardly along the front pillar (41) to be disposed
between the front pillar (40) and the pressing member (60) with

Replies
by ATT 19

the locking member engaged therebetween, whereby the pressing member (60) presses a front surface of the plate-like articles.

2. The packing device for plate-like articles as recited
5 in claim 1, wherein the guide member (71, 81) is constituted by
a U-shaped groove portion (74, 78) provided at the locking members
(70, 80) and opened to a front pillar side, and

wherein the U-shaped groove portion (74, 84) is slidably
fitted on the front pillar (41) along the longitudinal direction
10 thereof, whereby the locking member (70, 80) is slidably guided
by the front pillar (41).

3. The packing device for plate-like articles as recited
in claim 1, wherein the pressing member (60) has a grooved-shape
15 pressing plate (61) to be disposed along an up-and-down direction
with its opened groove direction faced to the front pillar, and
wherein the locking member (70) is slidably inserted in a
groove (61a) of the pressing plate (61).